

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TIJUAN 00351 021617Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01  
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06  
SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15  
STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 /098 W  
-----041545 021633Z /42

R 012355Z JUL 77  
FM AMCONSUL TIJUANA  
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1933

UNCLAS TIJUANA 0351

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD MX  
SUBJ: FREE TRADE ZONE

REF: TIJUANA 0233, TIJUANA 0218

1. GOM ANNOUNCED JUNE 29 THAT IT WOULD EXTEND THE FREE TRADE ZONE IN BAJA FOR ONE YEAR. DURING THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT, THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRONTIER AREAS AND FREE TRADE ZONES WILL STUDY THE FUTURE OF THE ZONE.

2. IN THE PAST THE ZONE HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR PERIODS RANGING FROM ONE TO FIVE (POSSIBLY SIX) YEARS. THE SHORT EXTENSION THEREFORE IS NOT WITHOUT PRECEDENT. AND WHILE THE EXTENSION IS OF ITSELF PLEASING TO LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, ITS SHORT DURATION WILL CONTINUE THEIR UNCERTAINTY OVER THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF BAJA AND, WE SUSPECT EFFECTIVELY DETER MUCH INVESTMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN A MORE STABLE ATMOSPHERE.

3. FUTURE DISSOLUTION OF THE FREE TRADE ZONE WOULD SEVERELY CRIPPLE THE BAJA ECONOMY AND BE A BOON ONLY TO BUSINESSMEN IN CENTRAL MEXICO AND SMUGGLERS ALONG THE BORDER.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FREE TRADE AREAS, BAJA CALIFORNIA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TIJUAN00351  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770237-0290  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 5ae2f071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TIJUANA 233, 77 TIJUANA 218  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FREE TRADE ZONE  
**TAGS:** ETRD, MX, US  
**To:** MEXICO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009